

CLAIMS :

1. An actuator position control method for use in a recorded information reproducing apparatus in which front, main and rear beams are directed onto a recorded track formed on a rotating optical recording medium and respective first, second and third signals are produced in response to light reflected by said recorded track when scanned by said front, main and rear beams, said method comprising the steps of :

- producing from a source of light said front, main and rear beams ;
- scanning with said main beam the recorded track ;
- controlling the position of said main beam with respect to the recorded track in response to position control signals generated by said first and third signals ;
- reading the recorded information by means of a processing operation of said second signal ;

said method being further characterized in that it also comprises the steps of :

- scanning in advance, with the front beam, a portion of recorded track which is located in front of the portion of recorded track that will be later, after a predetermined delay, scanned by the main beam ;
- on the basis of signals generated in response to the occurrence of possible defects detected by said front beam on said front portion of recorded track, cancelling the effects of the variations of said first and third signals, subsequent to variations of reflected light caused by said defects, by means of a modification of the position control signals generated for controlling the position of said main beam.

2. An apparatus for reading an optical recording medium on which information is recorded on at least one track, said apparatus being of the type comprising :

- means for generating from a light source front, main and rear beams directed onto said recorded track ;
- means for scanning with said main beam the recorded track ;
- means for producing respective first, second and third signals in response to light reflected by said recorded track when scanned by said front, main and rear beams ;
- means for generating position control signals from said first and third signals ;

- means for controlling the position of said main beam with respect to the recorded track in response to said position control signals ;
- means for reading the recorded information by means of a processing operator of said second signal ;

5 said apparatus being further characterized in that it also comprises :

- means for scanning in advance, with the front beam, the portion of recorded track later scanned, after a predetermined delay, by the main beam ;
- means for cancelling, on the basis of signals generated in response to
10 the occurrence of possible defects detected by said front beam on said portion of recorded track, the effects of the variations of said first and third signals, subsequent to variations of reflected light caused by said defects, by means of a modification of the position control
15 signals generated for controlling the position of said main beam.